UNSTARRED QUESTION AND ANSWER.

Medical aid.

22. **MR. S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI** (*Tovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware:

(*a*) that on account of the prevailing abnormal economic condition the sick and death rates in the villages are fast rising;

(*b*) that sufficient medical aid is not now available to them on account also of the abnormal rise in the prices of medicines, medical men's fees and their motor car fares; and

(*c*) with a view to give people in the villages more relief will the Government be pleased to attract more medical men to settle in villages by promising them more liberal grants and also help private practitioners in general by making some of the important medicines including quinine available to them for control prices through Government agency?

DR. S. JOHN: (*a*) and (*b*) No.

(*c*) The scheme of Rural Medical Relief has already been inaugurated by Government.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE: ARRESTS AT QUILON.

PRESIDENT: I have received notice of an adjournment motion to consider a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the conduct of the Government in having caused the arrests of labour workers at Quilon and consequent unrest in the country.

Before I go further into the matter, I want to know what arrests the honourable member is referring to?

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: I am referring to the arrests of some factory workers in Quilon.

PRESIDENT: When?

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Within a week's time.

PRESIDENT: It is not a matter of urgent public importance.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Yesterday also some people were arrested including Mr. Sreekantan Nair, the President of the Quilon Factory Workers' Union.

PRESIDENT: The question before the House is whether the honourable member has the leave of the House.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether it is *sub judice*?

PRESIDENT: I do not know at all. I do not know whether the arrest was uuder the Defence of Travancore Rules or under the ordinary law. All that I know is that I met certain labour leaders yesterday, and one of them is in the House today. I thought we arrived at a fairly satisfactory result as a consequence of our discussions and I thought that there was nothiug more to be done. About a week ago consequent upon a speech by one Divakaran in which he referred to blood shed and all that, certain arrests were made. I am not aware of any other arrest.

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